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Milton Heidelbaugh

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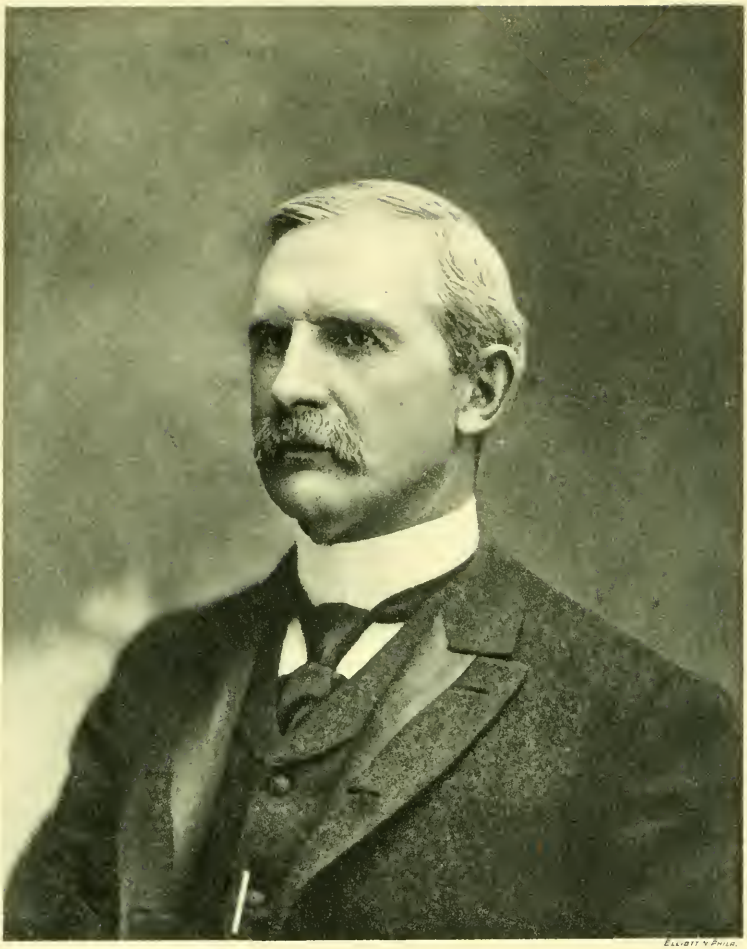

William McKelway

MEMORIAL

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SENATE

UPON THE DEATH OF

HON. MILTON HEIDELBAUGH,

LATE A SENATOR FROM THE THIRTEENTH DISTRICT

FROM
PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
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RESOLUTION.

In the Senate.
April 9, 1909.

Resolved (if the House of Representatives concur), That one thousand (1,000) copies of the proceedings of the memorial services, held in honor of the late Honorable Milton Heidelbaugh, be printed for the use of the Senate.

HARMON M. KEPHART,
Chief Clerk of the Senate.

The foregoing resolution concurred in April 9, 1909.

THOMAS H. GARVIN,
Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Approved—The 13th day of May, A. D. 1909.

EDWIN S. STUART.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SENATE

UPON THE DEATH OF

HON. MILTON HEIDELBAUGH.

In the Senate,
Tuesday, March 23, 1909.

On motion of Senator Homsher, the following resolution was twice read, considered and agreed to, viz:

Resolved, That a committee of eight members of the Senate be appointed to draft suitable resolutions on the death of the late Senator, Milton Heidelbaugh, who died on February ten, one thousand nine hundred and eight, and present such resolutions at a special meeting to be held on Tuesday, March thirty, one thousand nine hundred and nine, at three o'clock post meridian.

By subsequent action of the Senate the date of the special session was fixed for Tuesday, April six, at three o'clock post meridian.

MEMORIAL RESOLUTIONS AND ADDRESSES.

In the Senate,

Tuesday, April 6, 1909.

Afternoon Session.

Pursuant to adjournment the Senate was called to order at three o'clock post meridian, Lieutenant-Governor Murphy in the chair.

PRAYER.

Prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Reverend J. Wesley Sullivan, as follows:

Called to such services as these, O Lord, the thought comes to our mind that:

"Art is long and time is fleeting,
And our hearts, though stout and brave,
Still, like muffled drums, are beating
Funeral marches to the grave."

We think of those who leave us and we are led to ask the question, "Shall we gather at the river, the beautiful river that flows by the throne of God?" thus instilling into our hearts the hope of the great future as we realize those who are leaving us on every hand. As we come into this hour of service we come with thoughts of joy rather than of sorrow at the thought of the life that was lived; in this noble man who lived for home, State and for the Nation, and who devoted his life to business, to instruction and to service of God. We come with these memories of blessedness. We would remember in our prayer this afternoon those who are

left to mourn. We ask Thy blessing upon the widow and upon the children who think of this one who has left them. We thank Thee to-day with them for the comfort that comes into their hearts of the memory of this life. As the days of separation and loneliness grow may there come a joy and peace in the memories of this beloved life. To those who are associated in the temporal things may there come to our lives new inspiration, new desires to live grander and nobler lives, so that when we come to the end it will be with the hope of "gathering at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river that flows by the throne of God," and we ask all this with the forgiveness of all our sins in Jesus Christ, our Saviour's name. Amen.

Mr. HOMSHER. Mr. President, by the direction of the committee appointed to draft resolutions expressing the sentiments of the Senate on the death of the Honorable Milton Heidelbaugh, I offer the following resolutions:

RESOLUTIONS.

Whereas, the Honorable Milton Heidelbaugh, a member of the Senate of Pennsylvania, from Lancaster county, was called from the scene of his earthly labors and achievements, February ten, one thousand nine hundred and eight; and

Whereas, in his lifetime he rendered to his native county and the State and Nation long and important services as a citizen, as a soldier in the civil war, as member of the Legislature, and of this Senate; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate of Pennsylvania, at this session, set apart in his memory, give expression of the loss it has sustained in the death of Senator Heidelbaugh, and of its recognition of his abilities and services; and

Resolved, That to his family, bereaved of his kindly and manly presence, the Senate extends its profoundest sym-

pathy and prays for them that consolation which can come only in bereavements like this from Him who doeth all things well; and joins with them in the satisfaction of the memory of his attainments and achievements; and

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions, with the action of the Senate thereon, duly engrossed and attested, be forwarded to his family.

JOHN G. HOMSHER,
JOHN E. FOX,
E. M. HERBST,
WILLIAM C. SPROUL.
DANIEL P. GERBERICH,
A. E. SISSON,
A. G. DEWALT.

ADDRESSES.

Mr. HOMSHER. Mr. President, Senator Milton Heidelbaugh was one of the most widely-known and best-liked men in Lancaster county. I believe, and have frequently said it in his lifetime, that, leaving out of the question all political affiliations and influences, he would have received at an election as many votes as any man in the county. It means much to say that, and comparatively few men attain such a distinction. It is more than ordinary success in life, and it betokens the true politician. None can arrive at such a success, except by friendly devotion to the assistance of others or to the work of conducting and improving public affairs.

It is one of the happiest and most beneficent features of our elective system of government that it brings such men to the front. Like in every other sphere of usefulness, worth is sure to be recognized. The man, who unselfishly, conscientiously and intelligently works for the benefit of his fellow men, is rewarded with the good will and respect of the people.

He was a son of John Heidelbaugh, and was born on a farm in Bart Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, April nineteen, one thousand eight hundred and forty-three. He attended the public schools and Maple Grove Academy until he was eighteen years of age, when he became a clerk in a store at Georgetown, in his native township. During the war, he enlisted in Company C, Fiftieth Regiment, Pennsylvania Emergency Troops. After that he taught school for three years and then went back to clerk in a store. Afterwards, in partnership with William S. Ferree, he went into the general merchandise business at White Hall store, in his native township. This was in the village of Nickel Mine, in the midst of the great industry that was then the largest and most productive, if not the only nickel mine in the United States. Five years later he bought out the entire busi-

ness and kept the store for fifteen years longer. Then he went to farming; after that took up the lumber business, in which he was largely engaged at the time of his death.

He always took an active interest in public affairs, doing whatever came to his hand to do. He served as auditor and school director of his native township; was elected to the Legislature in one thousand eight hundred and eighty-five, and afterwards in one thousand eight hundred and ninety-three, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-five, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine; and in one thousand nine hundred and one was elected to the Senate, and re-elected in one thousand nine hundred and five, and would no doubt have been re-elected to the Senate again had he lived.

At the time of his death he was an elder in the First Presbyterian church at Lancaster, having long before connected himself with that denomination at Octoraro, in his home township.

Such then was his lifework. A farmer's boy, a clerk in a store, a soldier when his country called for men to put down the Rebellion, a school teacher, a merchant himself, a farmer, a lumberman, a deacon in the church, a school director, a member of the Legislature, and a member of the Senate. Amid such labors and environment he spent his busy and useful life. Ever ready to assist others in their private affairs, or public enterprises, he became one of the foremost citizens of the county.

He was a man of more than ordinary ability, with the happy faculty of accomplishing things more by gentle and easy good management than by any great show of earnest or forceful endeavor. In stature he was of tall and splendid physique and in manner he was a very genial and pleasant gentleman.

And then, in the midst of his achievements and enterprises, and when the future seemed yet full of work for him by the hard-earned wisdom learned by experience, he was suddenly called hence.

On Monday, February tenth, one thousand nine hundred

and eight, in apparently robust health and strength, he was about his work as usual, and retired at nine o'clock in the evening. Half an hour later he was taken ill, and at eleven o'clock he passed away.

Seldom was a death announced that caused more universal sorrow in the county. His friends and brother Senators came from the length and breadth of the State and laid him gently away in beautiful Greenwood, overlooking the winding Conestoga.

It is hard to think that he is gone. Let the kind memories of his life inspire us to a still greater devotion to the good of the people and the State, and the lesson of his sudden death admonish us to act as if each day may be our last on earth.

Mr. HERBST. Mr. President, Senator Heidelbaugh and I entered the Senate of Pennsylvania at the same time. The news of his sudden death came to me as a severe shock. Though knowing that he at times suffered from stomach trouble, his appearance and vigor when we parted at the end of the session of one thousand nine hundred and seven seemingly indicated many more years of life and activity.

When I recall the many fellow-members of Heidelbaugh and myself who have crossed "over the river and rest in the shade of the trees" of the undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns, I am lost in awe and amazement. "In the midst of life we are in death." "All flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. In the morning it flourisheth and groweth, in the evening it is cut down and withereth." "Why should the spirit of mortal be proud?" Why should we hold these heads of ours so proudly and boastfully erect, when in a brief time, no one knows even how shortly, they will be naught but what the poet has so graphically described:

"Behold this ruin! 'Twas a skull
Once of ethereal spirit full;
This narrow cell was life's retreat,
This space was thought's mysterious seat.
What beauteous visions filled this spot,

What dreams of pleasure long forgot
Nor love, nor hope, nor joy, nor fear
Has left one trace of record here!
* * * * * * *
Avails it whether bare or shod
These feet the path of duty trod?
If from the bowers of ease they fled,
To seek affliction's humble shed;
If grandeur's guilty bribe they spurned
And home to virtue's cot returned—
These feet with angel's wings shall vie,
And tread the palace of the sky."

Suffice it to say on my part that Senator Hiedelbaugh was a success in life. Others no doubt will be better able to give an extended sketch of his career, as farmer's boy, school teacher, soldier, country merchant and lumber dealer. In political life he, too, made good, serving his district in various local offices, and as a member of the Legislature during five terms, and died, so to speak, in the harness during his second term in this Senate. Had he lived, he would no doubt have been re-elected.

Our personal friendship started at the very beginning of the session of one thousand nine hundred and one, and continued to the end. We were near neighbors as to seats in this body, and for several sessions had rooms in the same hotel. Not until memory shall sink in the midnight pool of oblivion can I forget the many bright and cheerful social hours that I have spent with Senator Heidelbaugh and his colleague, Senator Stober: the good laughs I have had over the droll remarks of the deceased, and the lively and warm-hearted discussions, between these two friends of such different natural temperament. Two years ago the Senator and I were together a great deal, and thrown into intimate contact by long trips in visiting State Normal Schools, and this connection only served to increase my regard for Senator Heidelbaugh's kindly, gentlemanly character. In short, we were true friends.

"And such a friendship ends not but with life."

Senator Heidelbaugh was faithful to his duties and his friends. He was a thorough organization man. He was a

useful Senator, and a chairman of an important committee who never lost his temper when others were in anger. His interest in the education of the young was a notable trait, and for years he gave his time and attention to the improvement of our public and normal schools.

The sweetness, simplicity and honesty of his nature are the pride of his friends, and his heritage for their emulation.

Another link in the golden chain of Senatorial friendship is gone. We miss you, friend Heidelbaugh. May our loss have proven your gain. May you now be at rest where the flowers ever bloom, where the grass is ever green, where the birds ever sing, and where the "ended centuries are ever in the springtime of an eternal life."

"There are no dead; we fall asleep,
To waken where they never weep.
We close our eyes on pain and sin,
Our breath ebbs out, but life flows in."

I esteem it a great privilege to add this little spray to the wreath in loving remembrance of Senator Heidelbaugh, which his associates today weave.

Mr. SISSON. Mr. President, We do not wish to come here and dismiss in a few summary paragraphs the character of one who has filled such a prominent part in connection with the legislation enacted by the Legislature of Pennsylvania, during the last eighteen years, as has the Senator to whose memory we do honor to-day, one holding such a high place in the hearts of all who knew him. Although the time does not require anything elaborate and adequate, but rather forbids it, some brief sentences of respect and esteem may be indulged to the sentiment we entertain.

Senator Heidelbaugh and myself entered the Senate together with the beginning of the session of one thousand nine hundred and one, and during the first and fourth sessions that followed we occupied adjoining seats. While in private life he was a business and not a professional man, yet his service of five terms in the House, before entering the Senate, gave him an experience and training that made him a most valuable member of this body, and his advice and

counsel were of great value to an associate fortunate enough to have his good will and wise enough to improve the opportunity afforded by that condition. He very rarely missed a session of the Senate during the one special and four regular sessions that he was a member here, and his ability to grasp and understand the scope and effect of proposed legislation rendered his services in the Senate of inestimable value to the Commonwealth. He was deeply concerned for the people of the district he represented, and no interest of theirs was overlooked or forgotten, and he was efficient in producing results. During the whole time of his service in the Senate he was chairman of the Committee on Mines and Mining, and, as such, the demands upon his time, judgment, patience and skill were very great, as that period covered troublesome times for mining people in this Commonwealth.

He so skillfully managed and adjusted the differences of persons, whose interests were conflicting in legislation sought, as to make all his friends, and all regarded him as a friend of theirs.

While but slightly acquainted with his family and less with his neighbors, I know that to him his family ties were very sacred, and it meant something for a man to be his neighbor, and more to be his friend.

Although he was conservative, and not inclined to "dull his palm with entertainment of each new-hatched, unfledged comrade," yet he was not so reserved but that a friend, whom he respected and, with whom he occasionally came in contact, could not fail to discover his splendid qualities of heart.

The welfare of the common people was near and dear to him.

Although a very successful business man, he derived more pleasure from relating his early experiences as a boy upon the farm, and later as a school teacher, than in referring to his business successes, and his keen knowledge of human nature enabled him to read and picture the people of whom he talked in an interesting way and true to life.

Senator Heidelbaugh was a member of the board of trustees of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, at Erie, at the time of

his death. A week or ten days prior to that event I attended a reception given at Erie to that board, and Senator Heidelbaugh was present. Speeches were incident to the event, and the Senator heartily joined in the wit, good will, and good fellowship of the occasion. The affair was a most enjoyable one, and I little thought that it was the last of the many similar occasions we had enjoyed together.

The board having finished its business, he called at my office the following afternoon, and finding that I was in court he came over to the court house. He waited for about an hour until I had finished a case I was engaged in trying, and then we spent the balance of the afternoon together, until he took his train in the evening for home. I shall never forget the pleasant hours I spent with him that afternoon. We lived over again many of our experiences in the Senate, and the faces of our former colleagues here passed in pleasing review. While his mind still entertained plans for the future, he appeared at peace with all the world, and when a few days afterward I learned that he was dead, I felt that as I saw him last he seemed like one who had lived a well-rounded, useful and well-spent life, and was ready and content to respond to any summons that the future held for him, whether to new duties and responsibilities in life, or to the final summons of his Maker.

Mr. TUSTIN. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator Fox, I desire to present the following tribute to our late brother, Honorable Milton Heidelbaugh:

Moved by that same spirit of social unrest which has ever actuated the Anglo-Saxon breast with the westward march of civilization, a band of sturdy German peasants left their home in the mountain fastness of the Fatherland two hundred years ago finally settled amid the fertile valleys of Southeastern Pennsylvania. With them they brought the language and customs of their race, its stubborn determination, its deep piety, its reverence for home and paternal institutions and its distrust of untried conditions through fear of unknown ills. Here they worked and prospered until the

land became the garden of the nation and its sons and daughters famed for their sterling integrity, courage of their convictions and love for their land of adoption coupled with their mother tongue.

Conservative in their manner of thought and action they sought no control in wider fields of government but were content to travel their paths of daily toil and weekly devotion until hours of national peril demanded their action, and then, when rose in them the spirit which for centuries had watched the Rhine, history recorded achievements which recalled the deeds of valor of their noble ancestors told by Tacitus and Livy.

Of this race and kind was Milton Heidelbaugh, born of a pious, scholarly and aggressive line. His early life was spent amid all the protecting environment of a typical Lancaster home, his early education obtained in the typical Lancaster county school and there again presiding as the typical school master. He entered in the exploitation of the natural resources of his own and adjoining county and made his successful life work.

His ability and standing in his community demanded of him public service, and in eighteen hundred and eighty-five he was elected to the Legislature, from his county and served again in that House from one thousand eight hundred and ninety-three until one thousand nine hundred and three, when he was elected to this body, of which he was an honored member until his death.

As a man and officer he exemplified all the best qualities of his race and kind. He was stalwart, honest, truthful and ever watchful of the best interests of his constituents. Attentive to his duty he was ever at his post and shirked no labor, and believed no time ill spent in investigating the matters coming before him for deliberation. He was faithful to his party, faithful to his friends and faithful to the traditions of his fathers.

While such occasions as these are always sad, we temper our sense of bereavement with the kind and pleasant recollection of the noble characteristics of the honored dead.

While we regret his loss, we rejoice in the memory of the life which he has left us, and are glad with him when he met death full front in the spirit of his forefathers, he only laid aside his earthly trappings to enter into a well earned rest.

The question being,

Will the Senate agree to the adoption of the resolutions?

Mr. HOMSHER. Mr. President, I move the adoption of the resolutions.

Mr. TUSTIN. Mr. President, I second the motion.

The PRESIDENT. On this the roll will be called by the clerk.

The roll was called by the clerk as follows:

YEAS.

Messrs. Dewalt, Blewitt, Campbell, Cochran, Crawford, Crow, Dewalt, Dimeling, Fox, Gerberich, Grim, Hall, Harper, Hays, Herbst, Homsher, Hulings, James, Jamison, Keyser, Kline, Klinedinst, Kurtz, Langfitt, Manbeck, Martin, McConnell, McIlhenny, McNichol, Miller (Northampton), Miller (Bedford), Murphy, Riley, Rowland, Shields, Sisson, Snyder, Sproul, Templeton, Thomson, Tustin, Vare, Walton, Weingartner, Wertz, Wilbert and Wolf.—47.

NAYS.

None.

ABSENT OR NOT VOTING.

Messrs. Catlin, Durham and Rodgers.—3.

A majority of all the Senators having voted "aye," the resolutions were adopted.

ADJOURNMENT.

Mr. KEYSER. Mr. President, I move that the Senate take a recess until four o'clock this afternoon.

Mr. HERBST. Mr. President, I second the motion.

The question being,

Will the Senate agree to the motion?

It was agreed to.

Whereupon,

At three fifty post meridian the Senate took a recess until four o'clock post meridian.

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